

CLAIMS

1. In a digital scanner, a method for secure document transmission, the method comprising:

selecting a profile having an encryption field;

5 scanning a document; and,

encrypting the document in response to the encryption field of the selected profile.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein selecting a profile includes selecting a profile having an address field; and,

the method further comprising:

10 sending the encrypted document in response to the address field of the selected profile.

3. The method of claim 2 further comprising:

15 creating profiles having an address field and an encryption field;

storing the profiles in a directory; and,

20 wherein selecting a profile includes selecting a profile from the directory.

4. The method of claim 3 further comprising:

assigning each profile to a corresponding destination;

and,

25 wherein selecting a profile includes:

selecting a destination; and,

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wherein sending the encrypted document includes sending the single encrypted document to each of the plurality of addresses in the profile.

5 13. In a digital scanner, a method for secure document transmission, the method comprising:

generating a password;

creating profiles having an address field and an encryption field;

10 storing the profiles in a directory in response to the generated password;

selecting a profile from the directory;

scanning a document;

15 encrypting the document in response to the encryption field of the selected profile; and,

 sending the encrypted document in response to the address field of the selected profile.

 14. A digital scanner secure document transmission system, the system comprising:

a profile directory having an interface for selecting profiles with an encryption field;

a document scanner for encrypting documents in response to selected profile encryption field; and,

25 a network interface for transmitting the encrypted documents.

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15. The system of claim 14 wherein the profile directory supplies selected profiles with an address field; and,

wherein the network interface transmits the encrypted documents in response to the address field of the selected profile.

16. The system of claim 15 further comprising:
a memory for storing the profiles; and,
wherein the profile directory has an interface for creating profiles having an address field and an encryption field;

17. The system of claim 16 wherein the profile directory has an interface for accepting destinations and assigning each profile to a corresponding destination; and,
wherein profiles are selected from the profile directory in response to entering the destination.

18. The system of claim 16 wherein the profile directory supplies selected profiles having an address selected from the group including email addresses and file transfer protocol (FTP) addresses.

19. The system of claim 16 wherein the profile directory supplies selected profiles having an encryption field selected from the group including symmetric and asymmetric (public) keys.

20. The system of claim 19 wherein the profile directory supplies selected profiles having an asymmetric key; and, wherein the memory stores the public keys corresponding to each profile.

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21. The system of claim 19 wherein the profile directory supplies selected profiles having a symmetric key; and, wherein the memory stores the symmetric keys corresponding to each profile.

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22. The system of claim 16 wherein the profile directory has an interface for generating passwords, the profile directory creating profiles for a plurality of user groups in response to the generated passwords.

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23. The system of claim 16 further comprising:
a certification authority storing public keys;
wherein the profile directory supplies a selected profile having a link to the certification authority;
wherein the network interface negotiates with the certification authority for a public key corresponding to the selected profile; and,
wherein the document scanner uses the public key signed by the certification authority to encrypt the document.

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FOI b7 - 4394450

24. The system of claim 20 wherein the document scanner generates a random session key and encrypts the document with the session key using a symmetric algorithm;

wherein the document scanner encrypts the session key
5 with an asymmetric algorithm using the selected profile public key;
and,

wherein the network interface transmits the encrypted session key with the encrypted document.

10 25. The system of claim 19 wherein the profile directory supplies a selected profile with a plurality of addresses and a corresponding plurality of public keys;

wherein the document scanner encrypts the document into a single encrypted document using an asymmetric algorithm;
15 and,

wherein the network interface sends the single encrypted document to each of the plurality of addresses in the selected profile.

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